

Pimperne CE VC  
Primary School

Pimperne Church of England (VC) Primary School  
Newfield Road  
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Headteacher: Mrs. F. Waller B.Ed. Honours

20<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear All,

Welcome back to the Summer Term! Our very first remote Summer Term! ☺

“People say nothing is impossible, but I do nothing every day.” (Winnie the Pooh)

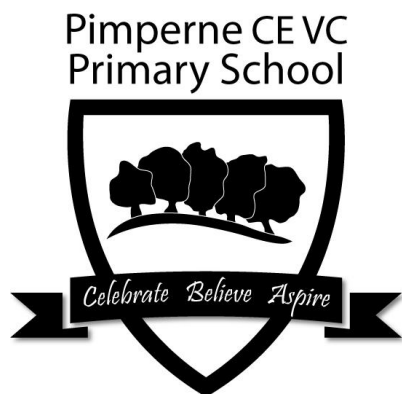
We’ve all had to adapt to new ways of working, so I wanted to take the opportunity to say what an amazing job you’re doing supporting your child’s wellbeing and learning during this time. We miss the children very much, but we must follow the government’s guidance to keep everyone in our community safe. So, we’re carrying on with giving suggested learning ideas via our website (and Tapestry for Reception) and continuing to open the school to provide for vulnerable pupils and children of critical workers.

I will attempt to continue to keep you informed of any firm decisions regarding the future opening of the school to other groups. I appreciate many of you may have either turned the news off or be following every conflicting media story there is, in an attempt to remain informed. It is indeed a challenging time, full of conflicting advice and best intentions. For now, we sit tight. We continue to maintain social distancing and do what we must to protect and help each other in whatever small way we can. Currently, it would be highly unlikely that the school opens to all children in May (as some sources may suggest) to offer any type of ‘normal’ provision. However, we are constantly looking at possible ways that this could be managed safely for both adults and children and that would not undo the work of social distancing or hygiene management. I ask that we do not yet talk to our children about any specific date for return, as this may only disappoint further.

It’s definitely been a strange and challenging time, so it’s okay if you and your child feel wobbly and worried at the moment. We’re here for you every step of the way as we figure this all out together. Remember, if you have any concerns about helping your child learn or you need any other support from the school, please let us know by either dropping an email to the school office, to Mrs. Gatehouse via the ELSA email or by letting your class team know. No-one should worry about asking for help at the moment.

As a staff, we are looking into ways of how we can begin to offer new teaching, rather than the consolidation and revision of skills. Schools are being encouraged to look at the use of technology to aid in this. We are aware that we may have a number of families that either share an internet enabled device between the household or priority thus far has been given to older siblings who are working towards public examinations. In addition, we realise that many of you may indeed only be able to work from home whilst using the one and only device. Therefore, the production of online materials will be need to be managed effectively and sensitively to the needs of all households. Much of the additional work that is being carried out by our teaching team at this time is around this. Please consider your own circumstances and let your class team know, when next they are in





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contact, whether your child would have access to a device in order to continue their education from home using online teaching videos for example.

Our Trauma Informed Team at school wished me to share this: (It echoes our sentiments here at Pimperne Primary.)

***"Dear Parents,***

***Don't stress about schoolwork. In September we will get your children back on track.***

***We are teachers and that is our superpower.***

***What we can't fix is social-emotional trauma that prevents the brain from learning.***

***So right now, we just need you to share your calm, share your strength and share your laughter with your children.***

***No children are ahead. No children are behind. Your children are exactly where they need to be.***

***With love,***

***All the teachers on planet Earth."***

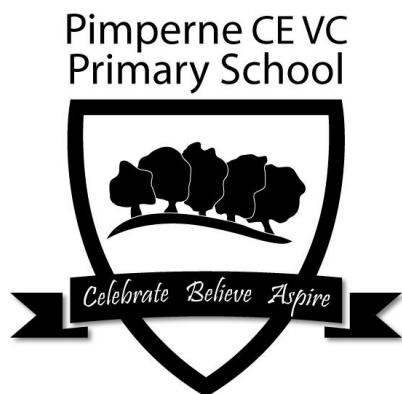
The school building, one year older, is a strange place to be right now. The occasional sounds can be heard from the children who are needing to use our provision, and those snip-its make me smile! But just because we're not all in the same building, doesn't mean we can't have some fun together! Your children will have lots of activities they can get emerged in over the summer term – so keep a close eye on the learning that appears on the website and any virtual platforms like Sumdog, as well as the emails from the teaching teams. We also love seeing the children's fantastic learning at home – please keep sending their work in by email, taking a picture and sending via email, using tapestry (Reception), collecting it in a book, or submitting completed learning via your virtual learning platform eg Sumdog) as we would like to showcase and celebrate this, in due course.

As a plea to keep those safe who are working on site, please can I ask that visitors only visit school if they have made an appointment or are expected. We are doing all that we can to clean down the foyer after use, disinfect door handles etc and we have a schedule in place for this. For the time being, additional visitors add to the risks assessed for staff to be working as safely as we can. Therefore, I thank you for asking before attending site.

I would like to officially welcome two members of staff, joining the team. A very warm welcome goes out to Mrs. Katie Penman, who is new to our school and will be supporting Year 2 and Year 6, this academic year. In addition, welcome goes out to a familiar face, Mrs. Sylvan, who returns from maternity leave and rejoins the team (on a part time basis) and who will be supporting Reception for the rest of this academic year.

As we move forward in the Summer term, I will of course, share with you the staff planning for next year, as well as transition work for our Year 6 class. As always, I very much hope there will be a time that we can return this academic year. We may be apart but we are together in so many ways.





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"I wonder what Piglet is doing," thought Pooh. "I wish I were there to be doing it, too." (Winnie the Pooh).

For now, sincere thanks for all you are doing. Stay safe and well.

Yours with best wishes,  
Fiona Waller (Mrs)  
Headteacher

